



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/970,644	10/05/2001	Kai-Yu Sun	SUNK3001/EM/7297	2039
23364	7590	11/16/2004	EXAMINER	
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC 625 SLATERS LANE FOURTH FLOOR ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			SHANKAR, VIJAY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2673	

DATE MAILED: 11/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/970,644	Applicant(s) SUN ET AL.	
	Examiner VIJAY SHANKAR	Art Unit 2673	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 July 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 30-37 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Min (6,577,288).

Regarding Claim 1, Min teaches a housing for protecting a flat panel display (2 in fig.1) and/or a backlight module, comprising: a rear blade, a front blade, and a side blade extending between and connecting the front blade and the rear blade (fig.3; column 2, line 63- col.3, line 48; Figs.1-2; Col.1, lines 27-62), wherein the side blade is integrated with and sandwiched between the front blade and the rear blade to form a linear frame (Figs.1-2,5) having a cross-section in a shape (figs. 3-5; column 2, line 63- col.4, line 2) , and the linear frame is allowed to fold to surround the partial

Art Unit: 2673

or the whole edge of the flat panel display and/or a backlight module (Figs. 1-2; Col.1, lines 19-63; figs. 3-5; column 2, line 63- col.4, line 2; Col.4, lines 10-53).

Regarding Claim 2,8, 13, 19, 24, 28, Min teaches the linear frame further comprising at least a binding unit on the surface of the linear frame to fix and close the two ends of the frame; and the binding unit is a combination of a hook and a groove (fig.3; column 2, line 63- col.4, line 2).

Regarding Claim 3, 7, 14, 18, 25, Min teaches rear blade or the front blade has at least a cut or a gap; and the cut is V-cut (fig.2; col.1, lines 48-62).

Regarding Claim 4, 15, 26, Min teaches the length of the frame is not greater than the peripheral length of the flat panel display and/or a backlight module (fig.3).

Regarding Claim 5, 16, 27, Min teaches frame has at least one opening for an electric cable connecting to the flat panel display and/or the backlight module (fig.2; col.1, lines 25-62).

Regarding Claim 6, 17, 23, Min teaches at least one separate blade locating on the inner surface of the side blade (fig.3; column 2, line 63- col.3, line 48).

Art Unit: 2673

Regarding Claim 9, Min teaches the flat panel display comprises a panel and a backlight module (fig.3)

Regarding Claim 10, 20, 29, Min teaches flat panel display is a liquid crystal display panel (10 in fig.5).

Regarding Claim 11, Min teaches the frame is made by plastic or metal (fig.3; col.3, lines 14-16).

Regarding Claim 12, Min teaches flat panel display, comprising: A display panel; and a housing for protecting a flat panel display (2 in fig.1) and/or a backlight module, comprising: a rear blade, a front blade, and a side blade extending between and connecting the front blade and the rear blade (fig.3; column 2, line 63- col.3, line 48; Figs.1-2; Col.1, lines 27-62) wherein the side blade is integrated with and sandwiched by the front blades and the rear blades to form a linear frame (Figs.1-2,5) having a cross-section in a shape (figs. 3-5; column 2, line 63- col.4, line 2) and the linear frame is folded to surround the partial or whole edge of the flat panel display and/or a backlight module (Figs. 1-2; Col.1, lines 19-63; figs. 3-5; column 2, line 63- col.4, line 2; Col.4, lines 10-53).

Regarding Claim 21, Min teaches method for assembling a flat panel display, comprising following steps: (A) providing a flat panel display (2 in fig.1) or a backlight module, and a housing for protecting a flat panel display and/or a backlight module, comprising: a rear blade, a front blade, and a side blade extending between and connecting the front blade and the rear blade (fig.3; column 2, line 63- col.3, line 48; Figs.1-2; Col.1, lines 27-62) wherein the side blade is integrated with and sandwiched by the front blades and the rear blades to form a linear frame (Figs.1-2,5) having a cross-section in a shape (figs. 3-5; column 2, line 63- col.4, line 2) and the linear frame being folded to surround the partial or whole edge of the flat panel display and/or a backlight module; and (B) folding or bending the frame to surround at least part of the edge of the flat panel display and/or the backlight module (Figs. 1-2; Col.1, lines 19-63; figs. 3-5; column 2, line 63- col.4, line 2; Col.4, lines 10-53).

Regarding Claim 22, Min teaches flat panel display comprises a panel and a backlight module.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 7-6-2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Min does not teach a housing for protecting a flat panel display and/or a backlight module, comprising: a rear blade, a front blade, and a side blade extending between and connecting the front blade and the rear blade to form a bent shape and in which the frame is bent or folded around the peripheral edges of a flat panel display to form a one-piece, easily assembled housing for the flat panel display.

However, Min teaches a housing for protecting a flat panel display and/or a backlight module, comprising: a rear blade, a front blade, and a side blade extending between and connecting the front blade and the rear blade to form a bent shape (fig.3; column 2, line 63- col.3, line 48; Figs.1-2; Col.1, lines 27-62), and in which the frame is bent or folded around the peripheral edges (Col.4, lines 38-53) of a flat panel display to form a one-piece, easily assembled housing for the flat panel display (Figs. 1-2; Col.1, lines 19-63; figs. 3-5; column 2, line 63- col.4, line 2; Col.4, lines 10-53).

5. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., a flat panel display in which the frame is bent or folded around **the peripheral edges of a flat panel display to form a one-piece, easily assembled housing** for the flat panel display are not recited in the rejected claim(s) 1,12,21. Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Allowable Subject Matter

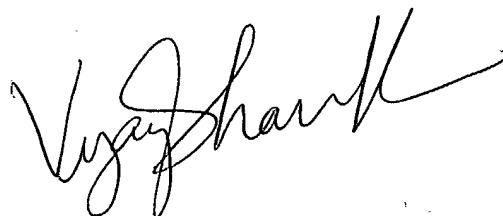
7. Claims 30-37 are allowed.
8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art fails to teach a housing for protecting a flat panel display comprising a side blade extending between and connecting the front blade and the rear blade; wherein the side blade is transformable from a liner shape to a bent shape, the side blade extends along a straight line when the side blade is in the linear shape, and the side blade is bent to form one angle when the side blade is in the bent shape.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VIJAY SHANKAR whose telephone number is 703-305-4763. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, BIPIN SHALWALA can be reached on 703-305-4938. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



VIJAY SHANKAR
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2673

VS